Harvard University Round Robin Report
June 2006
ALCTS Technical Services Directors of Large Research Libraries Group
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Recruitment for Head, HCL Technical Services
We are currently recruiting for the position of Head, HCL Technical Services. This position is responsible for all operations and services of the Harvard College Library (HCL) Technical Services Department, including acquisitions and cataloging activities for materials in multiple formats, in English and many foreign languages, for Widener Library and several FAS/HCL units. Jane Ouderkirk, who formerly held this position and the seat at Big Heads is now the Managing Director of Collections Management at the Harvard Business School's Baker Library.

OCLC Holdings
Harvard is currently involved in an OCLC reclamation project to reset Harvard holdings in OCLC's WorldCat database. This project includes a process where OCLC matches files of records provided by Harvard against the WorldCat database. OCLC will set Harvard holdings where it finds matches and add records when it does not find a match. We expect that between one and two million records, that were keyed during recon projects but not represented in OCLC, will soon be available in WorldCat. This project should be completed by around the end of the calendar year 2006.

Aleph (ExLibris)
Anticipate migrating to version 18 in August.

Electronic Resource Management
We are using a system, which was locally developed at Harvard and customized for our environment. Our local ERM works very well for centralized staff and handles the complex cost-recovery processes (based on usage across Harvard budget centers) that we require. However, it does not allow distributed use across the campus libraries. We are now at a point where we are getting ready to evaluate a third-party system, VERDE from Ex Libris. Our choice will be to implement VERDE or to enhance our system further with the granular security and other enhancements that we really need.

Library Reporting System
A working group was appointed to investigate the replacement of the reporting tool currently used to select and report on data from our integrated library system (Aleph). This group looked in some detail at several query and reporting tools and recommended the purchase of Cognos ReportNet. Roll-out of this new tool, which is web-based and supports Ad-hoc query and report authoring and report running, scheduling and distribution, will be later this summer.

Technical Services Productivity Initiative
An ad hoc working group has been analyzing current technical services operations across Harvard to identify and make recommendations on tasks and projects that would have the

biggest positive impact on increasing productivity in technical services departments throughout Harvard libraries. The report has been completed and recommends several specific projects, many of which are currently underway and others that should be complete by January 2007. Most projects focus on implementation of automated batch processing for acquisitions, cataloging and authority work.

Harvard-Yenching Library Update
The Harvard-Yenching Library now participates in all of the programs in PCC (Program of Cooperative Cataloging) administered by the Library of Congress, including BIBCO, SACO, NACO, and CONSER. The Library of Congress has authorized the Harvard-Yenching Library at Harvard to be an independent participant in these national programs. The Harvard-Yenching Library catalogs close to 30,000 CJK titles each year and all of these online bibliographic records are contributed to OCLC.

The Harvard-Yenching Library began participation in the OCLC inter-library loan program beginning June 12, 2006. The Harvard-Yenching Library holds 1.2 million volumes of CJK materials, forming the largest East Asian research collection among all academic libraries outside of Asia. It is hoped that, through this new inter-library loan program, the resources of the Harvard-Yenching Library can be more readily accessible to East Asian Studies scholars at institutions across the United States and abroad.

The Harvard-Yenching Library holds more than 2,400 Chinese big sets, usually called cong shu in Chinese, with each title containing hundreds, and sometimes thousands, of titles embedded in the big set. After a project of three years, the cataloging staff has completed cataloging all of the sub-titles in these big sets and their online bibliographic records have been contributed to OCLC.

LC Series Decision
Discussions continue within our Bibliographic Standards Committee and will move forward with recommendations to the University Library Council.

Move of Technical Services Operations from the Fine Arts Library, the Social Sciences Program and the Lamont Library
Due to impending moves and changes in programs in several Harvard College Library operations, the Technical Services operations of three libraries will be moving, within the next year, to space at our HCL Technical Services operation one mile from Harvard Yard. The Fine Arts Library staff will complete their move in June 2006. The Social Sciences Program Staff and Lamont Staff will move during FY07. Planning and discussions are underway to define processes and services that will be moving and how they will be integrated.